Steven Porter

AP Literature

Othello Letter

To the Venetian High Court:

    Please excuse my dear friend Iago from his torture and execution sentence, for he is a highly misunderstood individual. If Iago is guilty of any crime, the crime would be his inability to deal with all of the negative behavior around him. Many of his closest friends were conspiring against each other, and he did not know which side to take due to the fact that the people around him were all criminals themselves. He was friends with many people, and therefore he had to try to maintain his personal relationships even though his closest friends were all taking sides against each other. Any other person would also have ended up appearing two faced if they tried to remain nuetral while their best friends were fighting, so he cannot be blamed for his appearances. As for his connections with Othello, he did tell Othello that Desdemona was unfaithful to him. However, this was simply because he was looking out for Othello. He was protecting the best interests of his generals well-being in order to help preserve and maintain the integrity of the army. Iago also killed Roderigo, but his actions were justified because Roderigo attempted to kill Cassio and Iago simply wanted to protect his friend. The letter that was found on Roderigo's body incriminating Iago as a conspirator was a false, for it was planted there by Othello in order to frame Iago. Finally, Iago also murdered his wife but that was in retribution for her affair with Othello.

    It is obvious that Iago is a good man caught in unfortunate times. Events could not have worked out worse for him in the end, and he was never given an honest opportunity to explain himself. He deserves a second chance, for all of his actions were completely justified and necessary due to desperate times. Please reconsider his sentence and excuse him from all of his supposed wrongs.

Sincerely,

Steven Porter